

Statement*The recommendations of the Oversight Committee-*

1. All Institutes of Higher Learning should fully implement the quota within the maximum period of three years and all such Institutes which have capacity to implement within less than three-year period, say within one year or within two years should do so without taking recourse to the three-year time frame.
2. Expansion of capacity of Higher Educational Institutions.
3. Faculty housing should be provided.
4. National Merit Scholarship scheme to be expanded.
5. ICT facilities for campuses should be provided.
6. Lifting recruitment ban in educational institutions in teaching and support cadres.
7. Enhancement of age of superannuation.
8. An Empowered Committee to be set up in each institution which would accord the necessary clearances.
9. Optimizing Teacher-Student ratios.
10. Enlarging research and encouraging innovation on campuses.
11. Remedial Courses for weaker sections.

Irregularities in textbooks of NCERT

1193. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the number of satellites of the planet Saturn has been mentioned as over 30 in the eighth standard science textbook (first edition in January, 2004) and as about 18 in the geography textbook (first edition in February, 2006) of sixth standard of NCERT;

(b) if so, the reasons for reduction in number of satellites of Saturn between 2004 and 2006; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to publish correct facts regarding geography and science in the textbooks being released by NCERT which is the premier research organization in the country for education?

[4 December, 2006]

RAJYA SABHA

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) There was a discrepancy in the number of satellites mentioned in the books *i.e.* Science for Class VIII and Geography for Class VI brought out by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT). Necessary correction in the Geography textbook has been made and the corrected reprint edition available for 2007 academic session would read "over 30 satellites". Whenever any mistake/discrepancy is noticed in NCERT's textbooks after publication, it is corrected in the next reprint edition.

Directives of Supreme Court on OBC reservation

†1194. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court had issued any directives with regard to 27 per cent reservations to OBC in institutes of higher learning; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the court has passed any directions with regard to reservation to those persons of SC, ST and OBC who fall within the creamy layer; if so, the action being taken in this regard;

(c) whether women belonging to the above said categories are being considered for special quota in reservation; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Universities offering distance education

†1195. SHRI JAI NARAIN PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Central universities, State universities, State

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.